

Cowlitz, Kalama, and Lewis River Adult Spring Chinook 2009 Returns and 2010 Forecasts

Overall

- ❖ The 2009 total return of adult spring Chinook to the Cowlitz, Kalama, and Lewis rivers were spot on with the pre-season forecasts though where the fish ended up was slightly off.
- ❖ A total of 7,200 adult spring Chinook were predicted to return to the Cowlitz, Kalama, and Lewis rivers in 2009; the actual return was 7,200.
- ❖ The three-year-old jack returns were improved and in some cases the highest in years.
- ❖ The 2010 pre-season forecast for all three rivers is **19,400** adults.

Cowlitz River

- ❖ 2009 actual adult return was 4,900; pre-season forecast 4,100.
- ❖ Largest three-year-old jack return since the early 1990s.
- ❖ The 2010 pre-season forecast is **12,500** adults.
- ❖ The 2010 return would be twice the recent five year average.

Kalama River

- ❖ 2009 actual adult return was 350; pre-season forecast 900.
- ❖ The 2009 return was the second lowest since at least 1980 (338 adults returned in 1985).
- ❖ 2004 and 2005 broods have performed poorly to date.
- ❖ Improved three-year-old jacks returns from the 2006 brood are expected to result in improved four year-old returns in 2010.
- ❖ The 2010 pre-season forecast is **900** adults.

Lewis River

- ❖ 2009 actual adult return was 1,900; pre-season forecast 2,200
- ❖ The 2009 return was the lowest of this decade.
- ❖ Largest return of three-year-old jacks since the early 1990s.
- ❖ The 2010 pre-season forecast is **6,000** adults.
- ❖ The 2010 return would be 20% greater than the recent ten-year average